

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0030] beginning at page 15, line 12 to page 16, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0030]

Here,  $R_{17}$  and  $R_{18}$ ,  $R_{19}$  and  $R_{20}$ ,  $R_{17'}$  and  $R_{18'}$ ,  $R_{19'}$  and  $R_{20'}$  may be condensed with each other to form a hydrocarbon ring or a heterocyclic structure and the hydrocarbon ring and the heterocycles may have substituent),  $X_1$  is an electron-withdrawing group, and  $X_2$  is a hydrogen atom or  $-Q-Y$  ( $Q$  is a direct bond, an alkylene group having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, an arylene group or a heteroarylene group, and  $Y$  is an electron-withdrawing group, and the alkylene group, the arylene group, the heteroarylene group may have arbitrary substituent groups besides  $Y$ ), ring  $C$  is a carbocyclic ketone ring or a heterocyclic ketone ring which may have a substituent group along with  $C=O$ ;  $Z$  and  $Z'$  each represent  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ ,  $-NR_{21}-$  [wherein  $R_{21}$  is a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group which may be substituted, a heterocyclic group which may be substituted, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group represented by  $-NR_{22}R_{23}$  (wherein  $R_{22}$  and  $R_{23}$  each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group or a heterocyclic group) or an acyl group represented by  $-COR_{24}$  ( $R_{24}$  is a hydrocarbon group or a heterocyclic group) or  $-COR_{25}$  ( $R_{25}$  is a hydrocarbon group or a heterocyclic group)].

Please replace paragraph [0032] beginning at page 16, line 14 to page 17, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0033]

(In the formula (V),  $X$  represents  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-NR_{33}-$ ;  $R_{26}$ ,  $R_{27}$ ,  $R_{28}$ ,  $R_{29}$ , and  $R_{30}$  each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cyclic alkyl group having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, a linear or branched alkenyl

group having 2 to 12 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 7 to 18 carbon atoms, a linear or branched alkoxy group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a linear or branched alkylthio group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, an aryl group having 6 to 18 carbon atoms, a saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a mercapto group, a hydroxy group, a formyl group, an acyl group represented by  $-\text{COR}_{34}$ , an amino group represented by  $-\text{NR}_{35}\text{R}_{36}$ , an acylamino group represented by  $-\text{NHCOR}_{37}$ , a carbamate group represented by  $-\text{NHCOOR}_{38}$ , a carboxylic acid ester group represented by  $-\text{COOR}_{39}$ , an acyloxy group represented by  $-\text{OCOR}_{40}$ , a carbamoyl group represented by  $-\text{CONR}_{41}\text{R}_{42}$ , a sulfonyl group represented by  $-\text{SO}_2\text{R}_{43}$ , a sulfinyl group represented by  $-\text{SOR}_{44}$ , a sulfamoyl group represented by  $-\text{SO}_2\text{R}_{45}\text{R}_{46}$ , a sulfonic acid ester group represented by  $-\text{SO}_3\text{R}_{47}$  or a sulfonamide group represented by  $-\text{NHSO}_2\text{R}_{48}$ .

Please replace paragraph [0113] beginning at page 51, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0113]

In the general formula (I), XL represents a substituent which becomes capable of coordinating to a metal when a leaving group L is eliminated. Specifically, the substituent represented by XL includes a hydroxy group ( $-\text{O}^-; \text{X}, \text{H}^+, \text{L}$ ), a sulfonic acid group ( $-\text{SO}_3^-; \text{X}, \text{H}^+, \text{L}$ ), an amino group ( $-\text{N}-\text{H}; \text{X}, \text{H}^+, \text{L}$ ), an acylamino group ( $-\text{N}-\text{COR}_{37}; \text{X}, \text{H}^+, \text{L}$ ), a sulfonamide group ( $-\text{N}-\text{SO}_2\text{R}_{48}; \text{X}, \text{H}^+, \text{L}$ ), a mercapto group ( $-\text{S}^-; \text{X}, \text{H}^+, \text{L}$ ), a carboxyl group ( $-\text{COO}^-; \text{X}, \text{H}^+, \text{L}$ ).

Please replace paragraph [0146] beginning at page 73, line 24 to page 74, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0146]

However,  $R_{17}$  and  $R_{18}$ ,  $R_{19}$  and  $R_{20}$ ,  $R_{17'}$  and  $R_{18'}$ ,  $R_{19'}$  and  $R_{20'}$  may be condensed with each other to form a hydrocarbon ring or a heterocycle structure. The hydrocarbon ring and the heterocycle may have a substituent.  $X_1$  is an electron-withdrawing group, and  $X_2$  is a hydrogen atom or  $-Q-Y$  ( $Q$  is a direct bond, an alkylene group having 1 or 2 carbon atoms, an arylene group or a heteroarylene group, and  $Y$  is an electron-withdrawing group, and the alkylene group, the arylene group, the heteroarylene group may have arbitrary substituent groups besides  $Y$ ). Ring C is a carbocyclic ketone ring or a heterocyclic ketone ring which may have a substituent group along with  $C=O$ .  $Z$  and  $Z'$  each represent  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ ,  $-NR_{21}-$  [wherein  $R_{21}$  is a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group which may be substituted, a heterocyclic group which may be substituted, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group represented by  $-NR_{22}R_{23}$  (wherein  $R_{22}$  and  $R_{23}$  each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group or a heterocyclic group) or an acyl group represented by  $-COR_{24}$  ( $R_{24}$  is a hydrocarbon group or a heterocyclic group) or  $-COR_{25}$  ( $R_{25}$  is a hydrocarbon group or a heterocyclic group)]].

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 98, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the general formula (V),  $X$  represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or  $-N-R_{33}$ .  $R_{26}$ ,  $R_{27}$ ,  $R_{28}$ ,  $R_{29}$ ,  $R_{30}$  each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms; a cyclic alkyl groups having 3 to 12 carbon atoms; a linear or branched alkenyl group having 2 to 12 carbon atoms; an aralkyl group having 7 to 18 carbon atoms; a linear or branched alkoxy group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms; a linear or branched alkylthio group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms; an aryl group having 6 to 18 carbon atoms; a saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group; a halogen atom; a nitro group; a cyano

group; a mercapto group; a hydroxy group; a formyl group; an acyl group represented by -COR<sub>34</sub>; an amino group represented by -NR<sub>35</sub>R<sub>36</sub>; an acylamino group represented by -NHCOR<sub>37</sub>; a carbamate group represented by -NHCOOR<sub>38</sub>; a carboxylic acid ester group represented by -COOR<sub>39</sub>; an acyloxy group represented by -OCOR<sub>40</sub>; a carbamoyl group represented by -CONR<sub>41</sub>R<sub>42</sub>; a sulfonyl group represented by -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>43</sub>; a sulfinyl group represented by -SOR<sub>44</sub>; a sulfamoyl group represented by -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sub>45</sub>R<sub>46</sub>; a sulfonic acid ester group represented by -SO<sub>3</sub>R<sub>47</sub>; a sulfonamide group represented by -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>48</sub>.

Please replace paragraph [0233] beginning at page 130, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0233]

(Synthesis examples of compound)

The synthesis method of a compound to be used in the embodiment of the invention is not particularly limited, but includes, for example, a synthesis method described in Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 6-329616, etc. as a synthesis method of an azo compound represented by formula (I). The synthesis method of a compound represented by formula (II) includes, for example, Japanese Patent Application No. 63-057846(Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2-000667), etc. The synthesis method of a compound represented by formula (III) and formula (IV) includes, for example, a method described in Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-372199 (USP6815033) and the synthesis method of a compound represented by formula (V) includes, for example, a method described in Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-027599, etc.

Please replace the table at paragraph [0259] beginning at page 141, line 9, with the following rewritten table:

[0260]

[Table 6]

	Component (A)	Component (B)	A/B	CN		Recording sensitivity (mW)
				8T	3T	
Example 22	A3	B3	80/20	52.9	46.6	10.9
Comparative Example 20	A3	B3	100/0	53.6	44.5	11.6

Please replace the table at paragraph [0263] beginning at page 142, line 11, with the following rewritten table:

[0263]

[Table 7]

TG-DTA measurement (Condition: employing nitrogen as flow gas)					
	Component (A)	Component (B)	A/B	Decomposition starting temperature (°C)	DTG Peak Temperature (°C)
Example 23	A2	B3	80/20	277.7	339.4
Example 24	A2	B3	70/30	271.4	325.7
Comparative Example 21	A2	B3	100/0	294.7	348.0
Comparative Example 22	A2	B3	90/10	284.3	344.1
Comparative Example 23	A2	B3	0/100	284.5	290.5

Please replace the table at paragraph [0264] beginning at page 142, line 13, to page 143, line 1, with the following rewritten table:

[0264]

[Table 8]

TG-DTA measurement (Condition: employing air as flow gas)					
	Component (A)	Component (B)	A/B	Decomposition starting temperature (°C)	DTG Peak Temperature (°C)
Example 25	A2	B3	80/20	271.2	317.5
Example 26	A2	B3	70/30	264.2	304.7
Comparative Example 24	A2	B3	100/0	289.7	344.3
Comparative Example 25	A2	B3	90/10	269.9	324.1
Comparative Example 26	A2	B3	0/100	266.6	379.0